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TO-DAY

THE SOLDIER OF THE UNION

BY JOSEPH S. AUERBACH

A stricken soldier faltered on death's field
Surrendering of blood unto the State,
For her, enriched in strength, to dedicate
His eager gift of life to sword and shield;
So that advantaged valor might not yield
Hope's standards, where defeat must subjugate
The truth, which makes men free and only great
And is to all but fiends by God revealed.

Would we attest our love for this fled soul
To dwelling-place of fame, and his desire
From out the cup of bitterness to quaff
Of death with blithe salute, upon the scroll
Of our resolve be vows of faith and fire
That wrought in deeds shall be his epitaph.